

My fellow members of Congress, I urge you to support H.R. 6198 which will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1700 Cleveland Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri, as the "Reverend Earl Abel Post Office Building."

**RYAN HAIGHT ONLINE PHARMACY
CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF
2008**

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the House considered and passed H.R. 6353, the Ryan Haight Online Pharmacy Consumer Protection Act. This legislation will ensure that purchasers of potentially dangerous prescription drugs are evaluated face-to-face by a physician, removing the potentially dangerous anonymity inherent in the current federal regulations which allow prescriptions to be written based on a telephone call or online questionnaire.

To be sure, online pharmaceuticals makes it possible for millions of Americans to conveniently and affordably access the prescription medications on which they rely. However, the online system of prescribing and dispensing medication has been accompanied by a disturbing increase in the level of harm and death due to prescription drugs. This increase is, in large part, a result of the current federal guidelines that allow online pharmacies to write prescriptions for patients based on a telephone conversation with a physician or a simple online questionnaire, empowering patients to diagnose and prescribe for themselves virtually any drug and dosage they desire. Without the necessary information for adequate oversight by a qualified physician, many people have been exposed to dangerous and, all too often, deadly medications.

In response, many states have enacted laws requiring that individuals seeking access to powerful medications such as Vicoden and Xanax be evaluated in person before being prescribed a controlled substance. For example, in my state of Minnesota, the legislature and governor have recently worked together to establish Justin's Law. Named for a vibrant young man whose bright future was cut short by an overdose of prescription painkillers obtained through an internet pharmacy without a physician visit, Justin's Law has already been implemented to hold illicit online pharmacies accountable.

That said, the lives affected by online pharmacies are not limited to a particular state, and moreover, the interstate nature of the commerce conducted via the internet warrants that legislation be enacted at the federal level to help protect online consumers. As a result, I applaud my colleague, Congressman STUPAK for introducing H.R. 6353. This legislation, of which I am a cosponsor, will help stem the dangerous tide of controlled substances being dispensed without adequate supervision.

**CREDIT CARD HOLDERS' BILL OF
RIGHTS ACT OF 2008**

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5244, the Credit Card Holders' Bill of Rights Act.

It is all too common for hard-working Americans to be in debt because of credit cards. Many of my constituents struggle from paycheck to paycheck to make ends meet. Because of this they use credit cards as a means of acquiring the necessities of life, such as buying food for their family or paying utility or medical bills.

For most Americans, the language credit card companies use is difficult to understand, so most do not know what they are getting themselves into when they sign up to receive a credit card.

That is why I am pleased that my colleagues are considering H.R. 5244—the Credit Card Holders' Bill of Rights Act—of which I am a proud cosponsor.

This legislation gives rights back to the consumer, such as protecting them from arbitrary interest rate increases, early pre-payment penalties, and excessive fees.

This bill will help those Americans by requiring credit card companies to mail bills twenty-five days in advance before the bill is due and to notify the cardholders forty-five days in advance of any interest rate increase.

Today is a victory for the consumers as we have finally leveled the playing field between cardholders and the credit card companies.

**FILIPINO VETERANS EQUITY ACT
OF 2008**

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 22, 2008

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6897, Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2008. Congress must recognize the veteran status of the 250,000 Filipinos who served in the United States Armed Forces in World War II.

In 1941, President Roosevelt drafted 140,000 Filipinos into the Service. They were promised US citizenship in exchange for fighting for our country. Unfortunately, in 1946 they were denied citizenship and Veteran's benefits. It was a post-war cost-cutting measure that President Truman said he later regretted signing into Law.

We have a chance to right a wrong that has been allowed to continue for over 60 years. We must act quickly to honor these brave men before it is too late. I urge my colleagues to join me and vote in support of H.R. 6897, Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2008.

**COMPREHENSIVE AMERICAN EN-
ERGY SECURITY AND CONSUMER
PROTECTION ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6899, the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act.

Every day my constituents contact my office wanting to know what Congress is doing to lower gas prices. Many of these families work full-time. Some even have more than one job. Yet as a result of skyrocketing energy costs and a weakening economy, they are struggling to make ends meet.

Madam Speaker, there is something fundamentally wrong with our energy policy when hardworking American families are increasingly burdened by escalating energy prices, while oil companies continue to reap record profits. Congress has a duty to move past short-sighted solutions, and pass this legislation which will provide the first steps to ending this inequity and our Nation's addiction to oil.

While I have serious concerns about the expansion of offshore drilling, I recognize however, that this compromise is needed to address the expiration of the moratorium on Outer Continental Shelf drilling and move the other important provisions in the legislation forward.

While it is far from perfect, H.R. 6899 is a necessary and realistic compromise that in addition to preventing drilling only three miles off our shores, will help expand our domestic energy supply, encourage energy efficiency and conservation, and reduce our Nation's dependence on oil.

H.R. 6899 will address our energy crisis by the temporary release of almost 10 percent of the oil in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. This is expected to have the direct result of lower gas prices in the short-term.

The bill also invests in renewable energy technology by establishing a package of renewable energy tax credits and creating a renewable electricity standard, thereby giving us the tools and the incentives to break free of our dependence on oil. It is estimated that the renewable electricity standard will save American consumers up to \$18 billion by 2020. In addition, the tax credits will help spur the creation of new, green jobs and encourage the next generation of job development here in America.

The bill also ensures that oil companies will pay their fair share of royalties on their drilling leases. Due to errors made by the Department of the Interior in 1998 and 1999, many oil companies who were granted leases during that time were exempt from paying royalties. This has amounted to \$15 billion in lost revenues to the American taxpayer. There is absolutely no reason that oil companies should continue to cash in while American families can't even make ends meet. By rectifying this error, H.R. 6899 will ensure that the Interior Department will be able to collect the payments owed to hardworking Americans.

Given the current crisis, it is necessary we take the first step to reach our larger goal of energy independence. The Democratic leadership has wisely rejected the Republican Party's shortsighted call for "drill-only" legislation,

and instead has put forward a responsible plan to give states the option to decide if portions of the Outer Continental Shelf no closer than 50 miles off our shores will be opened to oil drilling—and it requires oil companies to drill on their existing leases or lose them. I am gratified that the legislation will incorporate environmental safeguards by permanently withdrawing national marine monuments and national marine sanctuaries from leasing eligibility.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to protect our shores from the lifting of the offshore drilling moratorium and as a first step away from dependence on foreign oil and toward critical investments in renewable energy technology. This legislation provides the foundation for a long-term strategy to move the Nation on the road to energy independence.

HONORING ALLEN EUGENE
MYERS, JR.

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Allen Eugene Myers, Jr., of Gladstone, MO. Allen is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1260, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Allen has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Allen has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Allen Eugene Myers, Jr., for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I wish to make the following disclosure in accordance with the new Republican Earmark Transparency Standards requiring Members to place a statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD prior to a floor vote on a bill that includes earmarks they have requested, describing how the funds will be spent and justifying the use of federal taxpayer funds.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Aircraft Procurement, Army Project Name: UH-60 Improved Communications (ARC 220) for the ARNG.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Rockwell Collins, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 400 Collins Rd., NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52498.

Description of Request: To date, the Army National Guard has received 141 UH-60L helicopters from the regular Army without the ARC-220 radio system. The National Guard currently has funding of \$3.9 million to outfit 85 of the 141 UH-60 helicopters that are missing the ARC-220 radio system, and the \$1.6 million appropriation included in this bill will help outfit the remaining National Guard Helicopters. Mission and threat changes, as well as responding to emergencies and/or immediate medical evacuation calls, require the crew to have ability to communicate immediately and effectively over long distances (200 vs. the current 20 miles). The ARC-220 radio system is a formal Army Program of Record (POR) that is combat proven and currently being utilized by the U.S. Army in their AH-64s, UH-60s and CH-47s in combat. The ARC-220 is an essential combat-multiplier for long range voice, data and situational awareness to the flight crews and operational commanders. This lack of long-range communications reduces mission flexibility and increases risk to both the aircrew and soldiers being supported. Additionally, situations involving precautionary landings executed outside the current range of communications leave the aircrew with no immediate, effective means to communicate this situation with higher or adjacent forces for immediate assistance. Failing to fund long range communication will inhibit mission flexibility, decrease threat knowledge and limit emergency communications.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army.

Project Name: Advanced Live, Virtual, and Constructive (LVC) Training Systems.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Iowa State University.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1750 Beardshear Hall, Ames, IA, 50010.

Description of Request: The Virtual Reality Applications Center (VRAC) located at Iowa State University, will develop three advanced software prototypes for LVC training that dramatically enhance the ability of a training officer to create efficient and effective training programs. Keeping up with the unique demands of urban combat and the ever-changing tactics of the insurgency in Iraq requires flexible and adaptive training systems that can be modified rapidly and deployed reliably and effectively in the field. The VRAC at Iowa State University has a scientific team leading research in the development of immersive virtual training environments. 50% of the funding will be used for equipment, 25% for salaries and benefits, and the remaining 25% will be used for software licenses, student tuition and other expenses.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army.

Project Name: Battlefield Plastic Biodiesel.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Renewable Energy Group and General Atomics.

Address of Requesting Entity: Renewable Energy Group, 416 South Bell Avenue. Ames, IA 50010. General Atomics, 3550 General Atomics Ct. San Diego, CA 92121.

Description of Request: \$1.6 million is provided in the bill to continue a 3-year partnership with the U.S. Army to develop a technology providing a cost effective way to recycle military plastic waste into a useable biodiesel fuel with enhanced energy yield, for use in field power generation and other applications. This technology has the potential to save taxpayers millions per month in military waste disposal costs, and enhance the viability of increased use of biodiesel by both the military and civilian sectors to achieve greater energy independence. The \$1.6 million FY09 appropriation is needed to complete the development phase of this multi-year project and demonstrate the technology.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army.

Project Name: New Vaccines to Fight Respiratory Infection.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Iowa State University.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1750 Beardshear Hall, Ames, IA, 50010.

Description of Request: A team of researchers at Iowa State University and the University of Nebraska Medical Center with expertise in biotechnology, bacterial genetics, pathogenomics, immunology and polymer chemistry has been formed to work on this project for the U.S. Army, in order to develop unique vaccine delivery vehicles that can be employed to combat a wide variety of respiratory pathogens threatening our military personnel. Such strategies also can be effective in combating agro-terrorism by protecting animals from airborne diseases. The project addresses needs identified in the President's Interagency Research and Development priorities related to Homeland Security and National Defense. \$4 million is provided in the bill for FY09. 38% of the funding will be used for equipment, 25% for personnel costs, and the remaining funding is for laboratory studies and the necessary materials and supplies.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army.

Project Name: Wireless Medical Monitoring System (WiMed).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Athena GTX.

Address of Requesting Entity: 3630 SW 61st Street, Suite 395. Des Moines, IA 50321.

Description of Request: This WiMed project has gained extensive support from both U.S. and foreign military services since 2006. The U.S. Army and the National Trauma Institute are planning comprehensive clinical trials evaluation in 2008 and 2009 across numerous Level 1 Trauma Centers with core funding using this system. The purpose of the project